

# **ADVERTISER**

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LISA ZIEGERT CASE

## DA, DNA put a face to unsolved murder

Family hopes computer generated images of suspect will finally produce a lead in 25-year Agawam case

By Michael J. Ballway mballway@turley.com

Almost 25 years after he raped and murdered Lisa Ziegert, investigators finally at least have an idea of what the assailant looked like.

At a press conference Wednesday morning in Springfield, District Attorney Anthony Gulluni — the third Hampden County DA to work on the Ziegert case — said he is looking for the public's help to identify a suspect in the 1992 killing of an Agawam teacher's aide. He's releasing the first-ever image of how Ziegert's killer may have looked, based on DNA genetic information: a fair-skinned man of mixed European descent with brown-to-black hair, hazel or brown eves.

"All I can say is, I hope and pray this brings someone to justice and brings some comfort to the Ziegert family," Gulluni said at a Hall of Justice press conference.

A company using new DNA analysis technology has been able to construct the images based on a single sample of DNA found at the crime scene off Suffield Street in Agawam

ZIEGLER **I** page 11



District Attorney Anthony Gulluni discusses the Lisa Zeigert murder case Wednesday morning. Standing behind him are State Police Capt. Chris Wilcox, left, and Agawam Police Chief Eric Gillis. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

## AHS field won't be ready Friday

First game pushed back to Oct. 3, grand opening will be later

By Michael J. Ballway

mballway@turley.com

Because of a delay in the delivery of frames for the stadium bleachers, the rebuilt Harmon Smith Field at Agawam High School won't open as scheduled this Friday.

Friday's football game against Holyoke High School will be an away game for the Brownies, but the mayor announced Tuesday that athletic games and physical

the new facility beginning Monday, Oct. 3.

"While this is not a the grand opening we expected, Mayor Cohen along with other town and school officials have been working hard to provide a safe and accessible facility," Mayor Richard Cohen's office said in a state-

Frames for the bleacher system were expected to arrive Wednesday, Sept. 28, and Holloway Seating, which is installing the bleacheducation classes will be held at ers, expects all construction to be

complete by Oct. 7, according to a statement from the mayor. For the first week of games, the schools will use six temporary bleachers, each of which can seat 70 people, on the eastern side of the field; the permanent bleacher construction zone on the west side of the field will not be accessible to the

With this week's game moving to Holyoke, the Brownies will have played four straight games on the

FIELD **I** page 10

#### AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL

## Rehearsal reversal: Jr. High restores weekly practice times

By Mike Lydick

aan@turley.com

Two weeks ago, Christine Nowacki and Deanna LeBlanc stood before the School Committee expressing concern about changing rehearsal time for the junior high school's band to every other week from once a week.

The two band parents were upset because they felt the reduced number of practices wouldn't provide enough practice time for concerts or competitions. For

them - and many other band parents and students - the reduced practice time struck a sour

However, that disharmony turned to elation when the school reversed course and restored the weekly practice.

"I'm thrilled," said LeBlanc. "Our children are lucky to have a responsive district that listens to concerns and makes changes after considering all perspectives.

#### SENIOR CENTER

## Flower arrangements, decorations a volunteer effort for local gardener

By Paul Burdziakowski

aan@turley.com

That fresh, lively beauty at the Senior Center stems from one woman's creativ-

Barbara Machietto, 83, volunteers her knack for floral arrangement to brighten the day of all visitors to the Main Street building. The largest display is just outside the center's lower level entrance. Here, visitors are greeted by dozens of potted plants of varying

colors and varieties such as begonias, geraniums, ferns, sweet potato vines, coleus plants and creeping jenny plants, complemented perfectly with colorful pots, garden banners and figurines.

Examples of Machietto's creativity can be found in just about every room inside the Senior Center. The upper level lobby features carefully positioned artwork, charming artificial flower

FLOWER I page 10



Barbara Machietto with some of her flower arrangements at the Senior Center. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY PAUL BURDZIA-



#### Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

**Turley Publications** offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice listing** the name of deceased. date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

#### **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries**

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## **Comedy, magic up next for Applause**

The Agawam Cultural Council welcomes local magician Pj Pinsonnault as it continues the 13th season of its popular Applause Series at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, Oct. 7, at 7 p.m.

Audience members can prepare to think, be ready to laugh, and expect to gasp as Pinsonnault presents his full-length, one-man magic show, "Think! Laugh! Gasp! The Comedy and Magic of Pj Pinsonnault," a mix of magic, mind reading and hilarity. Pinsonnault has studied with the best magicians in the world for the past 15 years.

"I've studied magic nearly all my life," he said. "I find sleight-ofhand to be no less artistic than musical talent or the ability to paint a beautiful work of art. I love sharing what I do with people, especially those who have never seen live magic before. Nothing can compare to a welltimed, expertly executed illusion that happens in real time."

Pinsonnault has performed

across New England for the past decade, bringing his magic to audiences at Mass Mutual, National Night Out and the Jimmy Fund. He even made a signed card appear inside the shoe of a brigadier general at a U.S. Air Force event. Pinsonnault presents his one-man magic show, Conjuring Christmas, annually in his hometown of Springfield.

The Agawam Public Library is at 750 Cooper St. in Agawam and can be reached by phone at 413-789-1550. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public.

Additional information on each of the Applause Series events is available at www.agawamcc.org.

The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and is funded, in part, by the MCC. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportuni-



The Applause Series continues with "Think! Laugh! Gasp! The Comedy and Magic of Pj Pinsonnault" Oct. 7 at the Agawam Public Library. SUB-MITTED PHOTO

ties in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

## Calendar .....15 Youth .....8 Sports ...... 12 Public Safety ......7 Opinion .....4 Classifieds ......16 20 PAGES

## Final '46 reunion is coming next week

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Agawam High School Class of 1946 will hold its final "46-70" reunion luncheon Thursday, Oct. 6, at the Monte Carlo Restaurant, 1020 Memorial Ave., West Springfield.

The day's events will begin with a social hour at 11:30 a.m., followed by a luncheon at 1 p.m. While 36 members have been lost, there are 39 classmates remaining from the Class of 1946, with eight in attendance last

For more information, call Raoul Sands at 413-789-6733.

## Please recycle this newspaper



#### Cultural Council seeks new members

The Agawam Cultural Council will meet Tuesday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The meeting is open to the public.

A great opportunity exists with the Agawam Cultural Council for anyone with an interest in providing diverse cultural events for the town. This all-volunteer organization, appointed by the mayor and funded, in part, by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, is looking for new members. The Cultural Council is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.



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#### **ELECTION 2016**

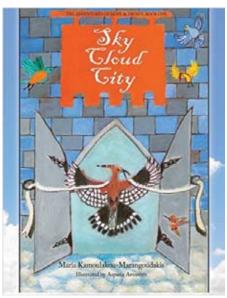
## Library art display features images of classic diners

The Agawam Public Library will display through October "Diners, Dogs and Roadside Art," the watercolor works of "Diner" Don Sawyer from, Brattleboro, Vt.

For more than 25 years, Sawyer has been painting New England's classic diners, eateries and roadside attractions. This display will feature such notable local diners as Charlie's in West Springfield, Miss Flo in Florence, Al's Diner in Chicopee, and White Hut in West Springfield.

The display will feature over 20 other watercolors from diners throughout Western Massachusetts, New England and even a "Taxi and a Dog" from Connecticut.

Sawyer will also appear in person from 6-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, at the library at 750 Cooper St., Agawam. Visitors to the library will have an opportunity to talk to him about his works, diners and current projects. Appearing with him will be his friend and a local collector, Bob Guidetti.



Aspasia Arvanitis will speak Oct. 12 about "Sky Cloud City," book illustrations and her other artwork at the Agawam Public Library. SUBMITTED

#### Book illustrator from town to address artist group

The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans meeting on Wednesday, Oct. 12, at 6:30 p.m. will feature Aspasia (Stacy) Arvanitis. The meeting is in the Community Room of the Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St.

Arvanitis will talk about her latest work, the illustratrations of a chldren's book titled "The Adventures of Hope and Trusty: Sky Cloud City," written by Maria Kamoulakou-Marangoudakis. Aspasia is a New England artist, born in Springfield. She works with oil, acrylic and pastel. Since adolescence Aspasia had a strong inclination for painting and was attracted by the works of all major

Renaissance masters. Guests are welcome at the meeting.

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#### **By Peter Spotts** aan@turley.com

While Donald Humason touts his experience in the state Senate as a reason to be re-elected, challenger J.D. Parker-O'Grady says he has the new ideas the district

Parker-O'Grady, a Southampton Democrat making his first run for elected office, will face off against the incumbent Westfield Republican on Agawam ballots Nov. 8. Humason, in addition to serving as senator for the past three years, spent 11 years in the state House of Representatives.

"I offer the voters experience. I proved I can do the job because I have done it," Humason said. "I am running against a challenger who is a relatively inexperienced individual. I do not know him other than seeing him a couple times on the campaign trail [and] there are things my opponent may talk about on the campaign trail about wanting to do, but I have already done them. I have cast votes on [issues] like energy, economic development, opiate addiction, things like that I already have a record

He also pointed with pride to his record of perfect attendance at roll-call votes in the Senate during all three years of his tenure there. He said "not too many legislators" can boast a perfect record.

Parker-O'Grady would be a freshman legislator but not a newcomer to the Statehouse; he spent nine months as the legislative director for Humason's predecessor, Sen. Mike Knapik. That experience, combined with political opposition to Humason, inspired him to take some time off from law school and run for state Senate

"A lot of [the decision to run] has to

## Dog Tag Dash at park to benefit veterans

Homeward Vets will host the first Dog Tag Dash 5K Fun Run-Walk Sunday, Oct. 23, at School Street Park in Agawam. This is a family-friendly event with activities for children. An obstacle course will be free for kids under the age of 10.

Food and beverages will be provided. Runners will begin at 9 a.m., followed by the walkers at 10 a.m.

Registration is \$25 per person if done by 5 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, or \$35 the day of the event at 7:30 a.m. To register, visit www. runreg.com/dogtagdash.

Homeward Vets, sponsored by Columbia Gas of Massachusetts, aims to rebuild hope where it's been damaged or lost. The group works with veterans in need who are underprivileged and who are underserved, to rebuild their lives. Its focus lies on community efforts by education and assisting veterans transitioning from chronic home-





**Experience vs. new ideas in state Senate race** 

Sen. Donald Humason

J.D. Parker-O'Grady

do with my background working for [Knapick]," Parker-O'Grady said. "I have a master's in public policy, I have seen how Don Humason has voted on some of the issues over the past three years and I have different viewpoints on several things than him. That motivated me to say, 'OK, this is the year I want to through my hat in the ring.' I am young, but I think we need fresh ideas in Beacon Hill. I do have the legislative experience and policy background to effect real change."

One key political difference between the two candidates is their views on charter schools. Also on Nov. 8, voters will decide a ballot question on whether to lift the cap on the schools, which proponents say provide an alternative to underserved students, and opponents say siphon much-needed funds away from public schools. Parker-O'Grady opposes the proposed expansion of charter schools.

"I truly believe that if we did an adequate job of fully funding public education we would not have people rushing to try and get out of these public schools," he said.

Humason said he doesn't think the debate will end in November, and said he can understand both sides of the argument.

"I have been supportive of charter schools because I represent some charter schools in my district," Humason said. "I don't know, although I have supported charter schools twice as a senator, how I will vote on the question. It is not the beall end-all we would like it to be. The root of the issue is two things: money needs to be available for all our schools, charter and traditional, and choice, parental choice, the ability to educate your child in a school that you think is going to do the job. I cannot pick a favorite. I have to be mindful of all of them. It remains now to see how the people will vote, but regardless, we in the Legislature are going to pick up the issue again, again, and again."

#### **Economic issues**

Humason added that he feels building up the infrastructure and internet capabilities, particularly in the district hilltowns Russell and Montgomery, can help attract businesses to the region.

"If these communities have access to wireless and cable in ways they do not now, and better transportation, whether that is infrastructure improvements or public transportation that is not existing now then that will give them, I think, what they need to attract businesses," he said.

Parker-O'Grady sees opportunity in the district to spark economic growth through the re-purposing of old mill buildings for artists, businesses, and other people that would be interested in the space to bring money into the towns and also wants to find ways to give the towns more local funding and control of it.

"Townspeople know what they need in their community. Beacon Hill does not, necessarily. I am generally in favor of giving local control over money spending if possible," he said.

The two candidates will face off in a series of debates before the Nov. 8 election. the first of which is on Friday, Sept. 30 at WGBY-TV in Springfield.



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OUR VIEW

## Why wait to hold hearing on HAP plan?

ity councilors may be right that the Town Charter demands that public hearing petitions be submitted in a traditional manner, with handsigned papers. They may be right to invalidate the online petition submitted by the group Save 586 Mill Street and — apparently erroneously — certified by Town Clerk Vincent Gioscia last month.

That doesn't mean they're right to delay holding a public hearing on the HAP project.

It may take a petition to force the council to hold a hearing, but there's no reason the council couldn't hold a hearing without receiving a legal petition. The council could have thrown out the Change.org petition and still proceeded to schedule a hearing on its own authority alone.

The petition states that the HAP land, 586 Mill St., is unsuitable for large-scale residential development and asks the town to offer a land swap, with the town taking ownership of the Mill Street property in exchange for siting a HAP project at Tuckahoe Turf Farm, on South West Street in Feeding Hills.

In reality, the council has only delayed the hearing, as HAP opponents should have no difficulty finding 50 voters to sign a piece of paper after having found 500 "signers" on the internet.

HAP Housing's plans to build a housing development on a former 12.5 acre Mill Street farm has already inspired spirited discussion at council meetings and community informational hearings. The project will include low-income housing units and, under Chapter 40B of state law, will likely be allowed to sidestep local zoning regulations. Neighbors are understandably worried about how large and dense a development HAP could place there. They deserve another chance to be heard without unnecessary delays.

There are legitimate reasons to delay a hearing. Maybe councilors think there will be new information in a couple weeks that would change the direction of the discussion. Maybe they want to wait until a date when representatives of HAP can attend. Maybe they think the entire discussion is out of order, as there is no formal proposal from anyone in town government to offer HAP a different location.

Maybe, but those aren't the reasons the council gave for delaying the hearing. Councilors focused on the technicality of how the petition was presented, rather than the undeniable fact that many more than 50 Agawam residents — whether they signed a sheet of paper or not — want to talk about finding an alternate location for HAP.

The likely outcome of all this protesting remains the same: HAP owns the land on Mill Street and has already begun making plans to develop it. HAP thinks it already has the perfect location for affordable housing in Agawam. There is no reason to believe that HAP is interested in a land swap.

Perhaps the only scenario under which HAP is likely to consider an alternate site is if the town threatens to take the Mill Street land by eminent domain. That would be an abuse of government power, unless Town Hall could suddenly show plans — and funding — to build a park, or a public school, or some other community use on that land. As of last month, there were no such plans.

Still, that's no reason to make dozens of Agawam voters and taxpayers wait for their answers.

What do you think? Email your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com

#### Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

The best way to contact us is by telephone, 413-786-7747, or email, aan@turley.com.

We can also be reached by fax at 413-786-8457 and by mail at Turley Publications, 380 Union St., W. Springfield, MA 01089.

Advertising Representative John Baskin can be reached at jbaskin@turley.com or 413-786-

Managing Editor Michael J. Ballway can be reached at mballway@turley.com or 413-786-7747, ext. 301.

Sports Editor David Forbes can be reached at dforbes@turley.com or 413-283-8393, ext.

Our office is open Monday through Thursday mornings, and other weekday times by appointment.



JAY SPEAKS

## Our family has served

enjoy running and they enter a number of races around the greater Chicago area.

A few weeks ago they ran a race at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center. The race was in honor of "Those Who Have Served." The entrants were encouraged

to wear something of a family

member who served in the mili-

Joseph attached to his shirt a picture of my dad, his grandfather, as well as a picture of me. Other members of our family served in the military. We are not known as a military fam-

ily, but when I wrote down all the people I could think of that served, it was quite

I served in the U.S. Army both in the United States and also overseas. My dad, Samuel, served in World War I in the United States and also went overseas to France. He was in the medical corps as a lieutenant.

My brother-in-law David served in the Army as an orthopedic surgeon during the Korean War, as well as the Cold War. He was at the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington. He worked with soldiers who had damage to their bodies during the wars. David retired as a major with full military

Kitty had two uncles, both named Sydney, who served in World War II. One served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific. He had two aircraft carriers sunk that he served on. Sid was lucky and came home safely.

The second Sydney served primarily in Central America. He was part of a listening post both for the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts that monitored weather systems liable to affect troop movement or aircraft flights. They monitored listening devices

ur son Joseph and his wife Valerie for German U-boats or Japanese subs. This was an unknown but valuable part of the war effort.

> My good friend and first cousin Ierry saw the most action of any of our fam-

ily. Jerry was in a U.S. bomber squadron. They were the group that went out night after might bombing factories, train tracks, munition storage areas and finally the oil fields called "Ploesti" in Romania. This area

home uninjured.

came into the Vietnam War toward the end. He was in the U.S. Air Force Reserve at Westover Air Force Base. He never had to go overseas. He was just one of the lucky

My cousin Mel entered the military late in the World War II. He was working as a civilian worker in the Panama Canal. Originally the government wanted to keep the canal non-military, but late in the war, everyone became part of the military. The canal was quite vital to the war effort.

Our son Scott earned a naval scholarship to MIT and as part of his discipline he served on a naval ship in the Mediterranean.

This gives me one more job to do. Assemble all their pictures and stories and make space in my office for this treasure trove of history. Thank you, Joe and Val!

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchil-

#### produced the oil that ran the German war machine. Jerry's squadron had a loss **Jay Berger** ratio in planes going out and planes returning that made everyone cry. Some nights the losses were as high as 65 percent. Jerry, being a tail gunner, was very lucky: he came

My good friend and first cousin David

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#### Election letters to the editor welcome

The Agawam Advertiser News welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the November ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications, 380 Union St., W. Springfield, MA 01089, faxed to 413-786-8457 or emailed to aan@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last week before the election (edition of Nov. 3). For more information, call Michael J. Ballway or Teri Machia at 413-786-7747.

#### **Candidate profiles**

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about the local sheriff, state senate and state representative races, and questionnaire responses from the candidates, during the months of September and October. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact John Baskin, 413-786-7747 or jbaskin@turley.com, about paid advertising in the Agawam Advertiser News.







## Congregational Church news, upcoming events

The public is invited to attend the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., "a place to call home — a people to call family." Worship service is at 10 a.m. Sunday mornings with a children's message, church school and fellowship and coffee

Sunday, Oct. 2: Family Communion Sunday. No church school. Coffee hour and special collection for Neighbors in Need.

Monday, Oct. 3: 9 a.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6 p.m., Survivors Ministry Group; 7 p.m., Committee meetings at church.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: 6:30 p.m., Missionary Committee meets.

Wednesday, Oct. 5: 7 p.m., Let Us Gather group meets in the choir room. All are welcome.

Thursday, Oct. 6: 9:30 a.m., Playgroup. 7 p.m., Choir.

Friday, Oct. 7: 7 p.m., Narcotics Anonymous meets.

Sunday, Oct. 9: 10 a.m., Worship service with church school and fellowship hour.

Monday, Oct. 10: Columbus Day. Office

Tuesday, Oct. 11: 6:30 p.m., Trustees meeting; 7 p.m., Crochet class. All are wel-

Wednesday, Oct. 12: 7 p.m., Deacons meeting, Let Us Gather in the choir room.

Thursday, Oct. 13: 9:30 a.m., Playgroup.

Friday, Oct. 14: 7 p.m., Narcotics Anon-

Saturday, Oct. 15: 7:30 a.m., Men's Ministry meeting at Bobbie J'z; 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Fall Festival.

Sunday, Oct. 16: 10 a.m., worship service, church school and coffee hour.

Monday, Oct. 17: 9 a.m., Prayer Shawl

Ministry; 4 p.m., Loaves & Fishes.

Wednesday, Oct. 19: 7 p.m., Let Us

Thursday, Oct. 20: 9:30 a.m., Playgroup; 7 p.m., Choir.

Friday, Oct. 21: 7 p.m., Narcotics Anon-

Saturday, Oct. 22: 5:30 p.m., Chicken and biscuit supper.

Sunday, Oct. 23: 10 a.m., Worship service with church school and coffee hour. Truck or Treat Halloween activity. Call the church office for more information.

Monday Oct. 24: 9 a.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry; 7 p.m., Women's Ministry meeting in the friendship room.

Tuesday, Oct. 25: 7 p.m., Council meeting, Crochet class.

Wednesday, Oct. 26: 9 a.m., Newsletter collation; 7 p.m., Let Us Gather.

Thursday, Oct. 27: 9:30 a.m., Playgroup; 7 p.m., Choir.

Friday, Oct. 28: 7 p.m., Narcotics Anon-

Sunday, Oct. 30: 10 a.m., Worship service with church school and coffee hour.

Monday, Oct. 31: 9 a.m., Prayer Shawl Ministry; 6 p.m., Survivors Ministry Group meets.

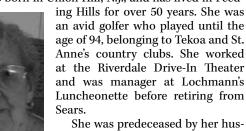
Pastor Greg E. Dawson is available for prayer after the service. The church offers many programs, special family activities, trips, picnics and more. Newcomers are welcome and members of the community are invited to participate in all church events. For more information, call the church office at 413-786-7111, visit www. agawamcongregationalchurch.com email office@agawamcong.com. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday, 8

## **Obituary**

## Pauline Jaeger Provost, 96

Pauline M. (Schmidt) Jaeger Provost, 96, passed away peacefully on Saturday, Sept. 24, surrounded by family and

She was born in Union Hill, N.J., and has lived in Feed-



She was predeceased by her husbands, Emil Jaeger and Richard Provost. She leaves her daughter, Jean DeForge of Feeding Hills. She will be

missed by many of her family and close friends.

Her funeral Mass will be Monday, Oct. 3, at 10 a.m. in Sacred Heart Church, Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, followed by burial in the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Main Street in Agawam.

Memorial donations may be made to Rays of Hope, Baystate Health Foundation, 280 Chestnut St., Springfield, MA 01199. Agawam Curran-Jones Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements. For more details please visit curranjones.

## Mayor Cohen hosts coffee chat

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host Coffee with Mayor Cohen 8-9:30 a.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam.

Cohen will be available to answer questions, listen to ideas from residents and talk about what is happening in Agawam. Questions for the mayor may be submitted in advance to robin@westoftheriverchamber.com.

For more information about this event, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or email info@westoftheriverchamber.com.

#### **DEATH NOTICES**

#### Fischer, Elizabeth K.

Died Sept. 17 Funeral Oct. 3 Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home of Agawam

#### Jaeger Provost, Pauline M.

Died Sept. 24 Funeral Oct. 3 Sacred Heart Church Agawam Curran-Jones **Funeral Home** 

#### McLaughlin, Vera

Died Sept. 18 Funeral Sept. 26 Curran-Jones Funeral Home Agawam

#### William C. Melbourne

Died Sept. 24 Memorial service Sept. 28 Toomey-O'Brien Funeral Home West Springfield

#### Young, Geoffrey R.

Died Sept. 19 Memorial service Oct. 12 Agawam Congregational Agawam Funeral Home Inc.

#### Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

**Turley Publications** offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$75, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

#### **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries**

should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## Agawam 'Local Stars' to dance in 3rd annual Kiwanis fundraiser

WEST SPRINGFIELD — Three leaders from Agawam will participate in the local Kiwanis Club's largest fundraiser of the year, the third annual Dancing with the Local Stars, next month.

Don Calvanese, proprietor of Storrowton Tavern; Joseph Mineo, vice president of the City Council; and Robin Wozniak, executive director of the West of the River Chamber of Commerce, will be among the "celebrity" dancers at the fundraiser Friday, Oct. 28, at the Storrowton Taven Carriage House.

Also dancing are West Springfield residents Sean Powers, attorney and board member of the West Springfield Capital Planning Committee; Lynn McCarthy, 2016 St Patrick's Day parade marshal; Police Sgt. Brian Pomeroy; Mayor Will

Reichelt; Dr. Jose Irizarry of the West Springfield School Committee; and John Sweeney, former president of the West Springfield City Council.

The event will feature wine tasting and food stations 6-7 p.m., followed by the show at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$50 and may be purchased at the West Springfield Federal Credit Union, 58 Union St. in West Springfield, or by contacting Nancy at 413-

As in years past, the event promises to be a sellout. Tickets will not be available at the door. There is still time to become an event sponsor and or place an ad in the event booklet by calling Robin at 413-209-0369.

Storrowton Tavern Carriage House is at 1305 Memorial Ave., on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield.



From left, Agawam residents Don Calvanese, Robin Wozniak and Joseph Mineo will participate in the Kiwanis Club's third annual Dancing with the Local Stars

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## Library program Monday to look at differences in town cemeteries

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

There are still plenty of seats available for a great presentation about the history of Agawam's cemeteries on Monday, Oct. 3, at 6:30 p.m. in the community room of the Agawam Public Library.

The library and the Agawam Cultural Council are excited to be welcoming the Gravestone Girls to the library to present the findings of a tour of Agawam's seven cemeteries.

Librarian Wendy McAnanama said the Gravestone Girls, a group of women who visit New England graveyards and research the different headstones they find, were recommended to her a couple of years ago.

She proceeded to write a grant earlier this year, and received funding from the Cultural Council and the Agawam Center Library Association to have research done at Agawam's cemeteries. The best part for McAnanama was that she became a "Gravestone Girl" for a day, alongside group founder Brenda Sullivan.

"I have always really been interested in gravestones and I thought it would be a great program for the library," said McAnanama. "When Brenda invited me to come out, I was so happy to be free that day." McAnanama, Sullivan, and another member of Sullivan's group spent Patriots Day in April touring several Agawam cemeteries. Sullivan said the cemeteries in Agawam show the town's long history as a

"We really divide the graveyards into three different eras," Sullivan said. "There are the gravestones in the 17th and 18th centuries. Then there are 19th century graveyards that are known as rural garden cemeteries. Then there are the modern cemeteries of the 20th and 21st century."

She said Agawam and Feeding Hills have all types of graveyards, from colonial burial grounds with small family plots to rural garden-style cemeteries, and then modern cemeteries. Agawam also features the regional Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Main Street, which has gravestones for veterans from all over the area.

Sullivan said her program will be a 90-minute PowerPoint presentation with time for comments and questions. Sullivan said she will educate people on the types of gravestones used, included the different materials used over time.

"As we industrialized, we modernized the materials used for our gravestones," she said. "That is reflected in the stones I saw throughout Agawam."

She said one very rare find in an Agawam cemetery was an older headstone from the colonial era that had names on both sides.

"In older cemeteries, names were on one side and always facing the west," said Sullivan. "We found a stone that had names on both sides. We believe it belonged to a husband and wife who are buried next to one another."

Sullivan said it is only the second such stone she has found in the region, though she has not been to every old cemetery in existence.

"It's definitely a very rare find," said Sullivan.

Photographs of that stone and more will be featured in the presentation, and as part of the grant paying for the research, the PowerPoint will be made available to residents for viewing at the library after her presentation.

For more information or to sign up for a seat at the presentation, contact McAnanama at 413-789-1550, ext. 4.

#### **CLUES ACROSS**

- \_ blache: Freedom
- 12. A jolt 15. "Doonesbury"
- character 16. Inspiring with love 17. Blood type
- 19. Anno Domini 20. Janet Reno held this
- post 21. Arab Republic of Egypt
- 22. Midway between south and east
- 23. Sodium 24. Twitches
- 26. Not loud
- 28. Hindmost
- 30. Be quiet!
- 31. This gives you money
- 32. Check
- 34. Short-term memory
- 35. Askew

39. Towards the mouth

37. Platforms

- 40. Copied
- 41. Emerges
- 43. Menial laborer 44. Chinese sword
- 45. Energy unit 47. Unhappy
- 48. The Golden State (abbr.)
- 50. External 52. Strayed
- 54. Liquid body substances 56. Plutonium
- 57. Truckers use this 59. Largest English
- dictionary (abbr.) 60. Beloved British princess Lady \_
- 61. The Bay State (abbr.) 15. Hitters need this 62. Thallium
- 63. Rebuilt
- 66. Element
- 67. The law of retaliation

- 70. Cuts 71. Mexican monetary
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Mothlike insect 2. Equally 3. Flightless birds
- 4. Grilling tool 5. When you plan to arrive
- 6. Thoroughfare 7. Philosophical life
- force 8. Birds Anxious 10. Man's title
- 11. Issued 13. Prayer leader 14. Edible red algae
- 18. Froths on fermenting 64. Encountered liquors
- 25. A two-wheeled horse-drawn vehicle 69. Hello (slang)

- 26. Amount (abbr.)
- 27. Small amount 29. Fundamental quality
- 31. Cubage unit
- 33. Bleated 36. No longer is 38. Initial public
- offering 39. Hard to interpret
- 41. Highly skilled 42. The woman
- 43. A bachelor has one 46. Trial prints
- 47. Passover feast
- 49. Military forces 51. Plant part 53. Remake
- 54. Flanks 55. Swiss river 58. Ottoman governors
- 60. Vale
- 65. One track circuit 68. Opposite of yes

## 'Stretch code' could lead to state Green Community status

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

Following a new energy audit of town buildings, the town of Agawam will apply and likely receive Green Community status from the state, qualifying for grant funding.

That will be the last of the five requirements to be fulfilled, after the City Council on Monday approved the "stretch" building code, which sets requirements on builders to create energy efficient buildings, something town officials argued is part of the way builders approach new construction anyway.

Town Planning and Community Development Director Marc Strange said the town now meets all of the requirements set forth by the state, but will repeat one of those requirements ahead of submitting their formal application on Nov. 21.

'We did the energy audit of our town buildings a while ago," said Strange. "But we decided through a grant that we would do it again so the information is up-to-

The last audit was performed in 2010.

The energy audit gives town officials a look at their own buildings and show where they could make improvements for energy efficiency. In many cases, grant money from the state is used for energy improvements to town-owned facilities. The result is reduced energy costs in the town budget.

Strange said the town is very interested in replacing older lights and light fixtures in the Town Hall and other buildings in favor of having LED lights. He said the school buildings are also a candidate for new lighting and would likely be prioritized over town buildings.

"The school buildings making up 60

percent of our energy use," said Strange. He also said new LED lighting for street lamps could be a target, but did not say if new fixtures would be needed.

Other projects would be identified by Building Maintenance Director Douglas White, who is exchanging information about town buildings with a subcontractor for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, which is helping the town with the energy audit.

The other requirements, which have already been met by the town, are: as-ofright zoning for solar arrays, an expedited permitting process for energy facilities, and investing in energy efficient vehicles for town officials, with public safety vehicles exempted.

Agawam's application for the Green Communities program will be compiled by the PVPC, with the work funded by a \$7,500 state Municipal Energy Technical Assistance grant, announced last week by state Sen. Donald Humason, R-Westfield, and state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, R-South-

The City Council rejected the stretch code several years ago, and the town sought a waiver from the requirement. The state denied the request.

Councilor Robert Rossi, who was also a member of the Energy Commission established by Mayor Richard Cohen, continued his opposition to the stretch code at last week's meeting, saying it was "not a good fit for Agawam."

Councilor Christopher Johnson argued in favor of its adoption, saying the town is losing out on grant money if it does not

Rossi said adopting a state code gives the state the ability to make changes and takes local control away, something towns allow to happen too much.

The majority sided against Rossi, with nine councilors voting in favor of adopting the code. Rossi and Councilor Donald Rheault cast the dissenting votes.

Staff writer Michael J. Ballway contributed to this report.



Images of past Ad Book covers. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## HS bands seek ad book sponsors

With more than 125 students in a halfdozen ensembles, including one of the few competing marching bands in Western Massachusetts, the annual operating costs of the Agawam High School Bands normally exceed the budget allocated by the Agawam School Committee.

As a result, the Agawam High School Band Parents Association is in a near-constant state of fundraising in an effort to allow the band to function without curtailing educational and performance opportunities. The annual Ad Book is part of that fundraising, allowing local individuals and businesses to support the band while promoting their product or business. The Ad Book also acts as a keepsake of sorts, with photos of the student-musicians, recognition of senior band members, and a list of the year's performances.

More than 1,000 copies of this professionally designed and printed book will be distributed free of charge at band performances and other events throughout the

vear. Ad rates remain unchanged from last year, ranging from \$200 for a full page down to an eighth page for \$35.

Individuals are also invited to support the band, with several giving level options, from \$75 for "Conductor" down to \$5 for "Friend." The deadline is Wednesday, Oct. 26. All payment, ad material, and patron information is due at that time.

Checks may be made payable to AHSB-PA and sent by Oct. 26 with ad material and patron information to: David Cecchi, AHSBPA Ad Book Coordinator, 29 Albert St., Agawam, MA 01001.

Press-ready PDFs may be sent directly to cecco@davidcecchi.com. Please put "2016-2017 AD BOOK" in subject line. All other ad material should be included with

For more information regarding ad material, or to see copies of past Ad Books, contact Cecchi at 413-786-3236 or cecco@ davidcecchi.com.

## Public Safety

#### FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 53 EMS calls from Sept. 13 to Sept. 19, and the following emergency response calls.

On Sept. 13 at 1:46 p.m., the department responded to Harding Street for smoke detector activation, no fire unintentional

On Sept. 13 at 2:53 p.m., the department responded to Maynard Street to assist police or other governmental

On Sept. 14 at 1:07 p.m., the department responded to Mill Street for false alarm or false call, other.

On Sept. 14 at 5:56 p.m., the department responded

to Suffield Street for service call, other. On Sept. 15 at 5:33 p.m., the department responded

to Colonial Avenue for lockout. On Sept. 15 at 7:26 p.m., the department responded

to Main Street for lockout. On Sept. 15 at 7:34 p.m., the department responded

to Southwick Street for citizen complaint On Sept. 15 at 11:59 p.m., the department respond-

ed to South Street to assist invalid. On Sept. 16 at 6:39 a.m., the department responded

to Florida Drive to assist invalid.

On Sept. 16 at 3:25 p.m., the department responded to Kirkland Street for lockout.

On Sept. 16 at 3:46 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street, was dispatched and canceled en On Sept. 16 at 3:49 p.m., the department responded

to Pheasant Hill Drive for alarm system sounded due to On Sept. 17 at 4:44 a.m., the department responded

to Granger Drive for CO detector activation due to mal-

On Sept. 17 at 5:22 a.m., the department responded

to Hope Farms Drive for CO detector activation due to malfunction.

On Sept. 17 at 9:52 a.m., the department responded to River Road for motor vehicle accident with injuries.

On Sept. 17 at 11:10 a.m., the department responded to Cooper Street for detector activation, no fire

On Sept. 17 at 2:02 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for motor vehicle accident with no inju-

On Sept. 19 at 8:25 a.m., the department responded to S. Westfield Street for smoke detector activation due

On Sept. 19 at 12:19 p.m., the department responded to Katherine Drive for alarm system activation, no fire

On Sept. 19 at 12:19 p.m., the department responded to Main Street for good intent call, other.

On Sept. 19 at 7:57 p.m., the department responded to Suffield Street for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

#### **POLICE LOG**

The Agawam Police Department responded to 383 calls for service from Sept. 19 to Sept. 25. The department recorded one arrest in its public log.

#### Saturday, Sept. 24

Jason Carpenter, 26. of Reaching Hill Road, Winsted. Conn., was arrested on charges of carrying a firearm without a license, possession of ammunition without firearm identification card, and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.



Agawam Police DARE officers Karen Langevin, left, and John Field, right, accept a donation from ICNE President and CEO William Trudeau. SUBMITTED PHOTO BY EMILY DOMASH / ICNE

## Insurance co. donates to DARE

The Insurance Center of New England, at 1070 Suffield St. in Agawam, donated \$500 to support the Agawam Police DARE program on Wednesday, Sept. 21. The funds will be used to purchase items, supplies and educational materials for use by Agawam students in the drug abuse resistance program.

Anyone wishing to donate can make out a check to "Agawam Police DARE" and send it to the Agawam Police Department, 681 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. One hundred percent of all donations are used for the students of Agawam schools.

## Lunch talk to spotlight new laws affecting business

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will host its third Lunch and Learn event, a legislative update from AIM's executive vice president for government affairs, John Regan.

The event will take place from noon to 2 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 18, at Storrowton Tavern's Carriage House, on the grounds of the Big E in West Springfield. Attendees will learn about the frenzied conclusion to the 2015-16 Beacon Hill legislative session that produced far-reaching measures on pay equity, energy and economic development, but no agreement on restricting the use of non-compete agreements.

Regan will discuss the matters that passed, those that didn't, what may be in store for the next legislative session, which begins in January, and how this may impact businesses.

The event costs \$35 for all attendees, and is open to the public. Registrations are being taken at www.westoftheriverchamber.com. For more information, call the Chamber office at 413-426-3880.

## In memory of 'Ned'



The annual memorial for Capt. Edward "Ned" Connelly Jr. was held Sept. 23 at Agawam High School. Connelly, a member of the AHS Class of 1961, was a U.S. Marine Corps pilot killed in action in Vietnam in 1968. Among those to attend the ceremony were AHS Principal Steven Lemanski and Mayor Richard Cohen, standing at far left; members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart; and several of Ned's 1961 classmates. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



### Blood, platelet donations needed at local drives

The American Red Cross urges eligible donors to give blood and platelets this fall to help restock the shelves following a significant summer shortage. Declines in donations can lead to blood shortages and make it difficult to meet patient needs should a disaster or emergency occur.

Agawam and Westfield will host several blood drives in the coming weeks:

- 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 1, at OMG, 153 Bowles Road, Agawam.
- 1-7 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 5, at Westfield State University's Parenzo Gym, Western Avenue, Westfield.
- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at First Congregational Church, 18 Broad St.,

Westfield.

- 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, at Our Lady of Blessed Sacrament Church, 127 Holyoke Road, Westfield.
- 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Active Lifestyle Fitness, 168 Elm St., Aga-

Donors of all blood types are needed. To make an appointment to give blood, download the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767. Donors are encouraged to make appointments and complete the RapidPass online health history questionnaire at redcrossblood. org/rapidpass to help reduce wait times.

## Painting event to benefit AHS chorus

All are invited to a Paint Sip fundraiser from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at Casa di Lisa, 801 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Agawam Chorus Booster Club.

Tickets are \$35 per person and all supplies will be provided. No experience is necessary. Food and drink will be available for purchase. Students and teenagers are welcome. No tickets will be sold at the door.

To make a reservation, visit www.PaintSipFun.com.





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## Disability can't stop local college student

SPRINGFIELD — Daniel Dintzner looks like any other student perched behind a computer, ready to dive in to a class project, check email or read a webpage.

But on closer inspection you'll notice there are no keys under his fingertips. Instead, his fingers skim across a strip of small raised pins. These are braille markings that rise and fall under his fingertips, allowing Dintzner, who is blind, to read text on the screen.

The Focus 40 braille display also has blue oval buttons that allow Dintzner to call up documents or surf the web. It's one of the helpful tools available at the adaptive lab in the Office of Disability Services at Springfield Technical Community College.

"It's kind of cool because I can go line by line and use these two rocker buttons to go up and down different lines or lists," Dintzner said while demonstrating the device. "It will read anything that's on the screen."

Dintzner, 24, of Feeding Hills, studies general business at STCC. He is on track to receive an associate's degree in two years.

While some of STCC's 500 students with disabilities have low vision, Dintzner is the only student who is blind at STCC. said Tara Sasser, his counselor and an accommodation specialist at STCC. Magnification of text won't help him read. He also has a hearing impairment and faces other physical challenges.

Because of a rare genetic disorder called Alström syndrome, Dintzner has faced multiple health problems for most of his life. Dintzner started losing his ability to hear at age 6 and, a year later, his sight. Today, he uses a hearing aid, carries a machine to translate text to speech and uses a cane to guide him. The condition also is characterized by liver and heart conditions, diabetes, short stature and a form of heart disease that enlarges and weakens the heart muscle. Dintzner's mother, Heidi, said her son is only one of a few hundred people worldwide with the condition.

Over the past three years, since Dintzner arrived at STCC, Connie Hackett, assistive technology technician in the Office of Disability Services, has helped him through some challenges - some more difficult than others. Hackett described how she had to convert statistical symbols into words that Dintzner could read using braille. She said she had to spell out the "plus" and "minus" symbols. But those were the easier ones. Hackett also had to figure out a way of spelling out a symbol for "sample mean," which looks like an "x" with a bar floating

He has an exceptional memory, they noted. "He doesn't tape-record the class," Sasser said. "He remembers the lectures."

His mother recounted an early experience a professor had with her son. "They're like, 'you're not taking any notes.' He goes, 'Yeah, I'm all set," Heidi Dintzner said.

The professor stressed that "there's a lot of information."



Daniel Dintzner, a student at Springfield Technical Community College, is seen working at the adaptive lab on campus, which includes tools that help students with disabilities. SUBMITTED PHOTO

"(Daniel) says, 'I have it," Heidi Dintzner said. "He took his first test and aced it."

Daniel Dintzner is taking two to three courses each semester. That's about as much as he can handle, because Alström syndrome also affects his stamina. He requires 16 hours of sleep in a 24-hour period, and can't take back-to-back classes, said Heidi Dintzner

"STCC has been excellent with accommodating Daniel and making a schedule that meets his needs," she said.

Daniel Dintzner excelled at academics enough this past spring to make the dean's list at STCC. Dintzner hopes to graduate with an associate degree in two years and transfer to Western New England University to pursue a bachelor's degree.

The Dintzner family has a long history with STCC. Alumni include Daniel Dintzner's mother, brother, father and sister, who is in her last year of nursing.

"My mother went there 40-some-odd years ago," Heidi Dintzner said. "It's sort of like a family affair. We've all been there. It's

Heidi Dintzner said she not only appreciates the education she received - she studied nursing and accounting - but finds STCC provides a good environment

"They have stopped at nothing to accommodate him," Heidi Dintzner said of the Office of Disability Services. "So it's absolutely been fantastic."

Unlike most other students, Dintzner needs to receive his course information in an electronic format. Hackett will contact the publisher of Dintzner's textbooks to ask for a PDF format, which provides an electronic image of text that she converts into a readable document.

In addition to the technology available

at the STCC lab, Dintzner uses a device called a BrailleNote Apex, which translates the text to speech and also allows him to read braille. The high-tech tool allows him to write papers or check email, among oth-

"I carry it all the time," he said.

#### Familiar face on campus

In addition to being blind and hearing impaired, Dintzner lives with other physical problems related to Alström syndrome. He has scoliosis, a condition that causes a curvature in the spine. Doctors inserted two titanium rods in his back, and he now can carry only up to five pounds.

While he may have some physical limitations, Dintzner is a familiar face at many STCC events. He uses a Pioneer Valley Transit Authority bus to commute to and from the campus. In June, he attended a Leadership Conference at STCC to hear what guest speakers had to say about becoming an effective leader.

His classmates treat him like any other student in the class. "Sometimes they get curious and ask about the technology I use," Daniel Dintzner said. "If they're interested in it, I'll explain it as best as I can."

When he's not hitting the books, Dintzner enjoys keeping up with Boston sports teams on the radio. He spent part of his summer interning for a Central Massachusetts financial business, where he was conducting demographic research. He did the work from his home.

As for his post-college plans, Dintzner said he's not entirely sure, but he wants to stay in Western Massachusetts, where he was born and raised.

"I want to work in finance or accounting at a local business," he said. "Hopefully I'll be able to do something in that area."

## Openings available for preschool program

The Agawam Early Childhood Program is accepting applications for both the morning and afternoon sessions for the current school year. The Agawam Early Childhood Program, with classes at Perry Lane in Agawam and the Granger School in Feeding Hills, provides all students with a standards-based education that builds the foundation for all future learning with Agawam public schools. The program meets the needs of children with and without disabilities and follows a developmentally appropriate curriculum where all children learn through play and hands-on activities.

To schedule a visit or for more information, call 413-821-0597, or visit www. agawampublicschools.org and select "Our School" and "Early Childhood Center."

## Apples, pumpkins theme of family playtimes in town

The Agawam Family and Community Program will host "Learn, Play & Grow" this week and next. These programs are designed for the parents and caregivers of children ages 2 to 5 to attend together. Registration is required and will be limited to 15 children for each event. To register, call 413-821-0597 or email mconnery@agawampublicschools.org.

Following the theme for September, "Apples and the Color Red," participants will enjoy apple tasting and searching for items that are red from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 29, at Jump Start Preschool, 605 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, and 9:30-10:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 30, at West of the River Family Center, 63 Springfield St., Agawam.

The theme for October is "Pumpkins" and will include making prints with gourds and creating a pumpkin patch. The program will be offered 9:30-10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St.; 6-7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at Jump Start Preschool; and 9:30-10:30 a.m. Friday, Oct. 7, at West of the River Family Center.

Siblings are welcome.

#### **CAMPUS NOTES**

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute: Cameron Czerpak, of Feeding Hills, is a member of the school's cross country

Wentworth Institute of Technology: Shawn Bosse, of Agawam, graduated at ceremonies held Aug. 21.

Western New England University: Braden Lucia, of Feeding Hills, was inducted into the school's chapter of Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society at ceremonies held Aug. 26.

Westfield State University: Patrick White, of Feeding Hills, was among recipients of a Joe Kareta Scholarship.

## School Lunch

#### AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

Monday, Oct. 3: Grilled cheese, tomato soup, whole-grain crackers, seasoned broccoli, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: Ham and cheese grinder, low-fat potato chips, celery sticks with ranch, assorted fresh fruit, dried cranberries.

Wednesday, Oct. 5: Chicken filet wrap with assorted sauce served with lettuce, tomato and cheese, side of pasta salad, fresh and chilled

Thursday, Oct. 6: Fresh assorted calzones, garden salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit. Friday, Oct. 7: Turkey and gravy, mashed potatoes, seasoned corn, garlic knot, wacky cake, assorted fresh fruit, dried cranberries.

#### AGAWAM JUNIUR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, Oct. 3: Hot dog on whole-grain bun, lowfat potato chips, Boston baked beans, fresh and chilled fruit.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, Goldfish crackers, assorted fresh fruit. Wednesday, Oct. 5: Ziti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.

Thursday, Oct. 6: Junior High and Doering — Turkey and cheese sandwich, macaroni salad, celery sticks with ranch, fresh and chilled fruit. Elementary — French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, Oct. 7: Junior High and Doering — French bread pizza, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie. Elementary — Turkey and cheese sandwich, macaroni salad, celery sticks with ranch, fresh and chilled fruit









## State grant helps Agawam, WSU continue inclusion efforts

 $\label{eq:WESTFIELD-Westfield State University was recently} WESTFIELD-Westfield State University was recently$ awarded \$157,924 by Gov. Charlie Baker to support the university's Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative Program, which serves students from 10 Western Massachusetts school districts, including Agawam. The grant covers tuition, books, materials, the salary for a coordinator and employment specialist, and additional programming needs.

The Inclusive Concurrent Enrollment Initiative Program allows students aged 18-21 that have intellectual disabilities to take WSU courses while they are still receiving special education services through their school districts. ICEI students enroll in 100- and 200-level courses alongside traditional day students at Westfield State. Course choices generally reflect the ICEI students' long-term employment goals. In addition, students are offered seminars to target social-emotional skills as well as employment trainings.

For more information, contact program coordinator Lyndsey Nunes at 413-572-8439 or lnunes@westfield.

## AHS grads are largest group entering WSU

WESTFIELD — Graduates of Agawam High School form the largest contingent of first-year students at Westfield State University this year.

Among the college's 1,070 freshmen are 33 from Agawam. An additional 14 AHS graduates number among the 310 transfer students entering their first year at Westfield State. The combined 47 first-year students makes Agawam the top feeder school for WSU this year; a spokesman for WSU said AHS is consistently among the top five, placing second to Westfield High School last year.

WSU welcomed the class of 2020 on Sunday, Sept. 4. The freshman class is 57 percent women and 87 percent resident (non-commuter) students.

## **AHS Counseling Bulletin**

#### Visiting college representatives

Students interested in meeting with any of the following college or university representatives that will be visiting Agawam High School must sign up at least one day in advance in the Counseling Center.

Oct. 3: 8:25 a.m., Western New England University; Oct. 4: 8:25 a.m., Endicott College; Oct. 5; 8:10 a.m., Wagner College; Oct. 6: 8:25 a.m., St. Peter's University, 12:20 p.m., Rivier University.

#### Information opportunities

Thursday, Oct. 6: 6 p.m., College Financing Seminar at AHS will cover applying for financial aid, how colleges make financial aid decisions, financial aid award letters, how families can pay their share of college costs and

Thursday, Oct. 6: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., AIC will host the National Hispanic College Fair. Register online at collegefair.info.

Wednesday, Oct. 19: A Night of Forensics, Justice and Science at Bay Path University. Experience hands-on activities and hear about career options in the forensics, science and justice fields. RSVP at baypath.edu/visit.

#### Open houses

Many colleges are hosting events in the next few weeks. Check the Counseling Center for more information.

#### **Special interest programs**

The UCONN School of Engineering will be hosting its second annual Women in Engineering Day on Thursday, Oct. 13. Participants will learn about all the possibilities they could pursue as engineering majors at UConn. Learn more and register at wie.uconn.edu.

Springfield College will be hosting a free Game Lab Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 22. This program will allow students to talk with video game industry experts, experience the field firsthand, and get to see how games are made/what it takes to make a game of their own. Register at springfield. edu/gamelab.

Springfield Technical Community College and Holyoke Community College are again offering the chance for current juniors and seniors to take up to one free course in each semester through the College Now program. This is a great way to earn college credits while in high school while trying courses that may be helpful in exploring a potential career interest. See your counselor for details

#### Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: Wendy's Heisman Award; AES Engineers; U.S. Senate Youth Scholarship Program: Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps: American College Foundation; B. Davis Scholarship.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

#### **Words Of Wisdom:**

"Years will pass for certain, so try to spend a little time in each one exploring something new that may come in handy later in life ... a class in tiling a floor, playing an instrument, cooking, etc."

Mrs. Lyons, Special Education teacher

## Children's author coming to the Agawam Library

The Agawam Public Library will welcome local author Karen Rose on Saturday, Oct. 15, at 2 p.m. Rose's book, "Pixie & Fenway: Unlikely Friends at Two Mountain Farm," tells a true story of friendship between a house cat and a chicken that was the victim of the pecking order. The book, for non-readers, young readers and big kids alike, has an underlying lesson of tolerance and accepting differences in others. This book was illustrated by local

Rose grew up in Wilbraham and is a graduate of Mount Holyoke College. After spending 20 years in Connecticut, she now lives on a small farm in southwestern Vermont. She has written two children's storybooks; the other is "A Sweet Lemon Arrives at Two Mountain Farm." She also co-authored an educational activity book, "Two Mountain Farm Friends Activity Book" with her mother,

The event will include a little reading from the book and a fun chicken craft. Books will be for sale. Cash or checks will be accepted.

For more information, call Pamela Weingart, youth services librarian, at 413-789-1550, ext. 3, or visit www. agawamlibrary.org.



Local author Karen Rose will be the featured speaker at the Agawam Public Library Saturday, Oct. 15. She is pictured here with the subjects of her book, Pixie and Fenway. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Mayor Richard Cohen, fourth from left, stands with youth soccer players and coaches who participated in the "Team Suzanne" fundraiser this month. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Soccer team raises \$1K to 'kick' cancer

Scott Breveleri, the coach of the Agawam Soccer Association team Celtic SC, coordinated a fundraiser held Sept. 18 at the Agawam Junior High School soccer field. Before the regularly scheduled game, a shoot out, "Kick it for Children's Cancer," was held with proceeds going to

support Griffin's Friends. A total of \$1,100 was raised. Team Suzanne was named in honor of team member Spencer Page's sister.

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- Red Cross Blood and Volunteer Drive
- Kids Activities: virtual reality pods, face painting and pumpkin decorating
- Breakfast and lunch for sale from Memos of West Springfield

The event is **Open to the Public** and Everything is **Free** EXCEPT for the treasures you buy at the Tag Sale, and the treats you buy from Memos.

> Learn more at www.SeeHowScrewsAreMade.com We look forward to seeing you on October 1st!



Howie Carr, second from left, stands at the Sept. 22 West of the River Chamber of Commerce breakfast with, from left, state Sen. Donald Humason, past Chamber Chairman Chuck Kelly and his guest Ralph Ledger. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

## Chamber breakfast features talk show host

The West of the River Chamber of Commerce hosted its Business Breakfast event Sept. 22 at Chez Josef in Agawam. The event, which brings members and non-members together for a morning of breakfast and updates, featured Boston author, journalist and radio talk show host Howie Carr as the guest speaker.

Among those in attendance were West Spring-Mayor Reichelt, state Sen. Donald Humason, state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga and Agawam city councilors.

The event was sponsored by Reliable Temps, United Bank, Partners Restaurant, Spherion Staffing and Haselkorn Inc.



Author, journalist and radio host Howie Carr addresses attendees at a recent Chamber of Commerce breakfast event.

## Please recycle this newspaper

arrangements and numerous pieces of pottery. In an adjacent hallway is a window display called Barbara's Bargains. Machietto constantly updates this display area with various trinkets and other interesting artifacts, which she sells at discounted prices. Machietto uses an eye-catching antique table and mirror as a centerpiece for seasonal decorations with different colors

Before she was a decorator, she was a patron of the Senior Center. She didn't come there for flowers.

and themes.

'The reason I came was to sing in the chorus," Machietto said. "There was nothing of beauty around. That's when I took it upon myself to beautify the grounds and the inside. Everything starts when the spring comes and the greenhouses are full of plants. I go to a couple florists that I do business with and I choose what nature does with beauty and how it works together to make a picturesque scene."

Machietto says that she has been volunteering her time at the Senior Center for the past six and a half years. Besides giving her time, Machietto also gives out of her pocket by providing most of the flowers and decorations herself. As the cooler weather comes along, she then gives it all away.

"I find a home for all the plants that have bloomed all summer by giving them to people at the end of the season," Machietto said.

Jeanne Chmielewski, who has been coming to the Senior Center for the past six years, says that Machietto is a special

"I think she is an amazing, gifted woman who projects herself in her flowers," Chmielewski said. "It tells you the character of Barbara. Her character is so sweet and caring for everyone in here. She has a lot of patience with the elderly and is a hard worker who does a lot of volunteering."

Senior Center Director Joan Linnehan agrees with Chmielewski and says she's for-

#### **FLOWER ■** from page 1

tunate to have Machietto.

"I believe she brings a lot of joy and beauty," Linnehan said. "It makes the center extra special."

Machietto has no formal training in floral arrangements. She attributes her artistic decorating skills to her parents, who had always been big gardeners.

"I'm just a girl of nature," Machietto said. "I am able to spot beauty where someone else doesn't see it. It's my God-given joy to do this. It was bred in me. It's all in my upbringing, number one, because my parents always had beautiful gardens. Nobody taught them how to plant; it was just knowledge that came naturally."

Machietto says that she is at the Senior Center five days a week helping in many other capacities, as well. She gives tours of the facility, assists in the kitchen and provides office help as needed. Machietto says that her motivation to do all this comes from the people who are at the center ev-

"The people that come to this center are what keeps me going," Machietto said. "They compliment me, show affection and listen to stories."

When she not giving her time at the center, Machietto is beautifying other places that she frequents. She does all the indoor and outdoor floral arrangements for Southwick Congregational Church. Machietto has even taken it upon herself to care for the gardens around the apartment complex where she lives.

Having inherited a green thumb from her parents, she's happy to report that her four children are carrying on the family

"My family is all local and they are all gardeners, also," Machietto said. "They all have gorgeous vegetable and flower gardens. My children followed in my footsteps they all have beautiful homes and gardens. Having four wonderful children is such an honor, I am just so proud of them. It's such a joy to be able to say how important my

## Emergency farm loan fund reopens after summer drought

Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture announced recently that its revolving Emergency Farm Fund has been reopened to aid Pioneer Valley farms who have suffered crop losses or other economic impacts due to the drought conditions that have persisted throughout the summer of 2016.

The CISA Emergency Farm Fund is offering zero-interest loans up to \$10,000 to Local Hero member farms and other farms that have suffered drought-related losses in Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire counties. The application period will close on Oct. 21. Application information can be found at buylocalfood.org.

If businesses or individuals want to donate to the CISA Emergency Farm Fund so that CISA can help more farms with drought-related losses, they can contact Alexis Schneeflock, Development Director at 413-665-7100 or alexis@buylocalfood.

Additional drought-related relief has been made available to farms through the Baker-Polito Administration's Drought Emergency Loan Fund and through the USDA's Farm Service Agency Emergency Loan Fund, both of which are offering lowinterest loans. CISA's Emergency Farm Fund supplements this public safety net with no-interest, quick-turnaround loans.

Earlier this month, CISA finalized \$43,000 in loans to five orchards that lost stone fruit crops because of the cold snap in February. One loan recipient, Calabrese Farms in Southwick, said, "Even without a crop to harvest, we still needed to care for the peach trees. This loan will offset some of our expenses in keeping the peach orchard thriving for future years."

The CISA Emergency Farm Fund was launched in 2011 in partnership with Whole Foods Market and Equity Trust. The fund was a response to the damage suffered by farms in Western Massachusetts from Hurricane Irene. Through three rounds of lending, CISA has distributed \$166,000 in loans to 19 farms. The CISA Emergency Farm Fund is managed by CISA with the assistance of Equity Trust. The Loan Review Committee includes a team of people with a variety of agricultural backgrounds, including staff from CISA, Whole Foods Market, Equity Trust and the state Department of Agricultural Resources, as well as farmers.

## Follow Us O







#### FIELD **■** from page 1

road to open the season, and the home opener will be their 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 7, matchup with Minnechaug. Other teams that would ordinarily use the football field, such as varsity soccer and field hockey, have been playing their home games at other fields around town.

The tennis courts are also expected to open Oct. 3, as will the boys and girls locker rooms. The baseball field is also complete, although it will not be open until the spring 2017 season, to ensure proper rooting of the sod. This is also the case for the softball and multi-purpose practice fields, which still need to be tilled and seeded.

The mayor's office said it anticipates the official grand opening will take place prior to the first induction ceremony of the Agawam Athletics Hall of Fame on Sunday, Oct.



For the past six and a half years, visitors to the Agawam Senior Center have been enjoying the beautiful flower arrangements and other decorations created by 83-year-old volunteer Barbara Machietto. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY PAUL BURDZIAKOWSKI



### **NOTICE**

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— the only male DNA at the scene — and kept in police custody since then.

Gulluni compared the images to a police artist's sketch based on witness testimony, but noted that there are limits to what DNA can describe. DNA can point to a person's natural hair color — in this case. medium-brown to black — but doesn't reflect hairstyles or dyes that the suspect may have used. Similarly, DNA can indicate skin color, but not the presence of scars, tattoos or tanning.

DNA is also silent on the age and weight of the suspect. Gulluni had Parabon Nano-Labs of Reston, VA., prepare two images, one of a 25-year-old man with a normal body mass index, and one of a 50-year-old man a little overweight. He said there was no evidence at the scene indicating that the assailant was in his 20s at the time, or what kind of physical condition he was in, much less what his weight would be to-

Nonetheless, Gulluni said he hopes seeing an image will jog someone's memory. Anyone with information about the case is urged to call the DA's tip line at 413-333-9148, the Agawam Police Department at 413-786-4767, or send an anonymous "text-a-tip" to 274637, with a message beginning with the word "SOLVE."

Ziegert, who was 24 years old at the time, was reported missing April 15, 1992, after disappearing from Brittany's Card and Gift Shop on Walnut Avenue Extension, where she worked a night shift. Her body was found in a wooded area off Suffield Street four days later. Ziegert also worked as a paraprofessional at Agawam Middle School.

Dee Ziegert, Lisa's mother, said she has been "impressed and overwhelmed" at the

#### **ZIEGERT** ■ from page 1

lengths that the police and the Hampden district attorney's office — through three successive DAs — have gone to solve the case. She said seeing the DNA-based image gave her hope, and some other emotions.

When you see it, you finally, after 25 vears, have a face that you can look at," Ziegert said. "I don't really want to say I hate anyone, but yeah, it's there."

Gulluni said the Ziegert murder occurred just as DNA evidence was beginning to be used in police work, and the DNA used to create the computer images has been checked against federal databases for the past two decades — without a match.

He said he believes this is the first time DNA imaging technology has been used on a Massachusetts case, though the company has worked on cases for the federal government and in some other states. Gulluni said he is not aware of whether any of those cases produced a suspect that led to a conviction.

Because the images are an approximation based on genetic evidence, they would not be used as evidence in court. Their sole purpose is to help locate a suspect.

Agawam Police Chief Eric Gillis said he believes the Ziegert case, which has never been closed, is either the longest-running open APD investigation, or at least among the top few.

Among the Agawam residents attending the press conference was School Committee member Shelley Borgatti-Reed, a family friend of the Ziegerts who embraced Dee both before and after the press conference. Borgatti-Reed is the daughter of the late Agawam Police Detective Edward Borgatti, who worked on the Ziegert case.

#### **BAND ■** from page 1

We truly have the best teachers, staff, students and programs here in Agawam."

Nowacki is also pleased with the revision, saying it gives students the extra time that they need to perform.

"It's a perfect solution and an excellent response from the school. I'm very glad it's resolved," she added.

Several years ago, the school adopted a model where students could receive academic support and enrichment, also known as ASE, during the student's last period of the day. The model was developed after researching and studying best educational practices for adolescents, said AJHS Principal Norm Robbins.

"We've built an enrichment and support period into the school schedule, rather than trying to squeeze it in at some point," said Robbins.

Academic support days allow teachers to do review lessons and help students get additional support in specific subject areas, while enrichment programs include special projects or assignments, such as the Future Authors Program.

"Academic teams can develop their own activities and lessons and schedule more or less support [and] enrichment lessons based on student needs," he added.

Robbins said the decision to have fewer band practices was an attempt to limit the number of disruptions caused by students leaving band practice or enrichment classes to receive academic support from teachers in specific subject areas.

Robbins said conflicts developed after music rehearsals were moved from outside the regular school day and became part of ASE time a few years ago, forcing some students to choose between band practice or an ASE program.

He said cutting the number of rehearsals was not ideal, but seemed to be a better option than kids leaving ASE classes.

"We were looking for a compromise that would prevent students from being pulled out of an ASE class where they can get additional academic help as needed."

He explained that there are students in band with individual education plans who require additional assistance in ASE.

"Letting those students leave ASE when they needed additional help would have violated their IEPs," Robbins said.

Robbins added that some parents apparently thought that students would have a study period or would be watching movies in place of band practice. He said the misinterpretation may have surfaced when

parents received a list of possible movies at the beginning of the school year.

"We wanted parents to be aware of the movies being considered for viewing by students — such as on a bus during a field trip or to reinforce concepts being taught in classes - so they would be aware of what movies we might show," said Robbins, who noted that the final period of the day has never been a study period.

#### 'Win-win' for kids

When Robbins heard from several parents via email and during a conversation at Back to School Night, as well as one student who disagreed with the reduced practice schedule, he decided to revise the schedule submitted last spring by band director Ken Michna.

His solution: revive weekly band practices and add practice time. In a letter to parents dated Sept. 23, Robbins announced that band rehearsals will be restored to once a week beginning the first week of

The additional practice time will come from an extended hour of rehearsal after school once a month. While academic support will still be scheduled for practice days, the extra hour of rehearsal will provide more time for students to better prepare for concerts and competitions during the year.

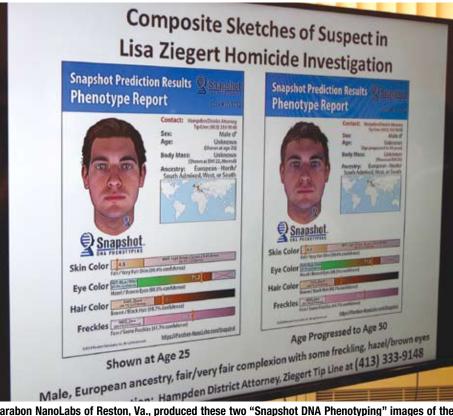
The revised schedule also means that on days when the band is not rehearsing and academic support is not scheduled, all students can attend an enrichment program. This means that students like Nowacki's son Austin, an eighth grader, can go to band practice and a science enrichment program.

'This is definitely a win-win for the kids," said Nowacki.

Christian Rua, an eighth grade band student who had been "quite upset" about the practice time cut, agrees.

"I'm glad to see that we have such strong support for the band program that the weekly rehearsals can continue," he said. "It means a lot that everyone worked together to keep our Agawam band program

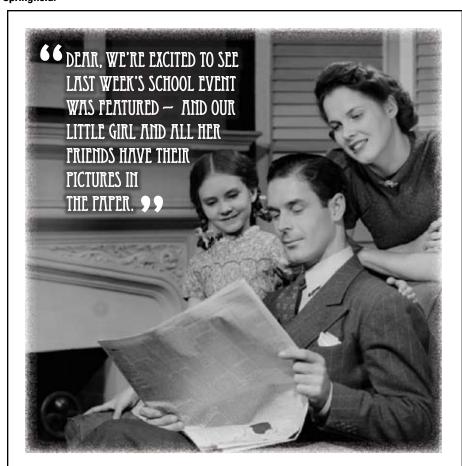
His mother, School Committee member Wendy Rua, said the revised schedule is "music to my ears." She added, "The AIHS administration deserves a huge compliment for truly listening to the concerns that were raised and doing right by band



Parabon NanoLabs of Reston, Va., produced these two "Snapshot DNA Phenotyping" images of the suspect in the Ziegert murder, the only male DNA found at the crime scene. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY



Lisa Zeigert's mother Dee speaks during the district attorney's press conference Wednesday in Springfield.



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**FOOTBALL** 

## Morassi three TD's overwhelm Beavers

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Though it appeared things were going to be a bit closer when Putnam's Jason Ruell scored on a pick-six to get the Beavers on the scoreboard.

But Chris Morassi and the rest of the Agawam High School football team had bigger plans, and the Brownies struck for three unanswered touchdowns to put the game out of reach as Agawam beat Putnam 35-7 last Thursday night at Berte Field at Central High School.

The Agawam defensive and offensive lines, which feature many of the same players, had some huge plays and did a great job stuffing Putnam's running backs throughout the game.

Agawam needed just two plays to get on the board in the first quarter. After a short run by Morassi, Jared Durcoher made it the rest of the way with a 45-yard run down the sideline for the first touchdown of the game. Following Aiden Page's extra point, Agawam had a 7-0 lead.

The defenses traded possessions on a few occasions before Agawam got some momentum going near the end of the first

F00TBALL ■ page 13



Agawam running back Chris Morassi makes a run to his left. Turley publication photo by gregory A. Scibelli

SOCCER

## **Brownies surging with three straight shutouts**

Next two weeks will be a tough test for Agawam

By Gregory A. Scibelli ascibelli@turlev.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls soccer team is out to show the rest of the region that their experience and talent can hang with the best in Western Massachusetts.

The Brownies have won three straight games and are 6-1-1 this season.

The past week, Agawam defeated Northampton, Holyoke, and Chicopee Comprehensive just ahead of a two-week period that will truly test just how far Agawam's talent could take it.

Last Friday afternoon, the Brownies continued to play well at School Street Park and defeated rival Northampton 2-0. School

FOOTBALL ■ page 14



Allie Wysocki gets set to clear the ball away. TURLEY PUBLICATION PHOTO BY GREGORY A SCIRFULI

HOME OPENER DELAYED

## Bleacher delays result in site change

AGAWAM – The site has been officially changed ahead of the Friday, Sept. 30 football game between Agawam and Holyoke.

What was supposed to be a celebration of Agawam's new home turf is now a conference game being played at Holyoke High School.

Athletic Director David Stratton said the site was changed due

to a delay in the construction of the new bleachers at the artificial turf stadium. He was told by contractors the bleachers would not be ready in time. He was prepared for such a delay.

"About a week before, I started the process," said Stratton. "I got in touch with the athletic director in Holyoke to see if their field might be available. I wanted to have a contingency plan just in case."

As far as games scheduled for Monday, Oct. 3 and going forward, Stratton said he is playing those "day-to-day" and said the bleachers could be finished over the weekend. He also said there is a good likelihood the Oct. 7 football game between Minnechaug and Agawam will play as scheduled.

#### FIELD HOCKEY

# Strong second half leads Brownies over Knights

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – When Holyoke came to Agawam this year, the Brownies knew they were looking at a team they needed to take seriously.

And Agawam was up to the task, outplaying the Knights on offense and picking up a 4-0 win.

Battles between a very improved Holyoke team and Agawam's perennial tournament contender has been very competitive. Holyoke plays in the weaker West League while the Brownies' league schedule consists of some of the best teams in the region.

On this occasions, though, a second half surge helped Agawam pick up the momentum and run with it. Four different players would score for the Brownies, as they did an excellent job moving the ball the around both sides of the field.

The Brownies would take the lead with a goal in the first half, and the battle was largely neutral until the end of the first half and into the second half.

Agawam slowly started to gain momentum and kept play moving toward Holyoke's end of the field.

With 20:53 remaining, Nina

FIELD HOCKEY | page 14



Camille Aloisi reaches out to get the ball. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A SCIRFI II

#### **FOOTBALL** ■ from page 12

quarter.

First Durocher made a 27-yard run, and Morassi followed that with a 12-yard carry that would put Agawam at Putnam's 13yard line.

Morassi would have another carry, but a defender grabbed onto his ankle, throwing off his balance and causing him to lose the football. Fortunately, lineman Zach Hodge was there to make the recovery at Putnam's 3-yard line.

Mike Basile would make the final carry into the end zone to make it 13-0.

Following Putnam's interception for a touchdown, the Brownies again drove their way down the field, and Morassi made a 15-yard run, breaking two tackles up the middle to score. Durocher made a short run for the conversion to make it 21-7 at halftime.

Morassi would score twice more on runs of three and 16 yards, respectively, in the second half, and the Agawam defense did not allow anything to happen from Putnam's offense.

Ryan White got the start at quarterback and was in for a couple of series for

Basile, who was not 100 percent. Basile would eventually get into the game, but was not asked to do much other than to trust his core of running backs. Morassi had his second big game in three weeks, running 19 times for 225 yards and three touchdowns. Anthony Adams ran 11 times for 81 yards, and Durocher had nine carries for 80 yards and a score. On defense, Morassi also had an interception.

Agawam improves to 2-1 for the season and has completed their independent schedule.

#### Unsung heroes

#### **Agawam Football** Ryan White #12

Backup quarterback provided relief for a couple of series in place of Mike Basile, led the Brownies to two touchdowns early against Putnam

#### Thomas Caracciola #40

Defender batted away a long pass that would have resulted in a Putnam touchdown right before halftime, keeping momentum in Agawam's favor.



Aiden Page attempts a point-after kick. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELL



Spencer Kozlak makes a punt away.



Anthony Adams tries to get past the goal line



Running back Jared Durocher starts a long run down the left side.

## Golf team out to a strong start

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM - An influx of talent up and down the board has helped Agawam High School maintain its status as a perennial contender over the last few years.

This season, a brother-sister combination is leading the way, just like last Friday afternoon's battle between Agawam and Chicopee Comprehensive.

The tandem of Matteo Godek, a senior, and sister Alia Godek, a sophomore, shared medalist honors with cards of 38 in Agawam's easy 156-196 win.

Agawam's top six players all registered the top scores for the Brownies. Steve Grasso and Gino Aloisi followed with 40's, Jon Farrell had a 41, and Brandon Smith had a 42.

The Brownies are 6-1-1 this season,

and hold third place in the Valley Wheel League. Despite being eight matches into their season, Agawam has met league opponents just twice, opting to have a heavier independent schedule to start the season, with league competition later on.

Last Tuesday afternoon, Agawam also picked up a big win 158-167 over Ludlow.

In this matchup, Ludlow was able to mix in a few good cards to keep things close. But the Godek siblings kept up their streak of good performances.

Matteo had a 36 while Alia picked up a 39. Farrell finished with a 41, Grasso and Smith each carded 42, and Tom Grenier finished at 43.

Agawam is back in action on Oct. 3 against Central, and has a league match at South Hadley's Ledges Golf Club on Tuesday, Oct. 4.

## **Lady Brownies halfway to tourney**

By Gregory A. Scibelli

gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM - The Agawam High School girls volleyball team has had a strong start to the regular season, but have run into a tough part of their schedule as they have entered league play in the Eastern League.

Agawam sits at 5-2, more than halfway to claiming a tournament spot this season, something alluded the Brownies by just one game last year.

But defeats against Frontier and perennial powerhouse Longmeadow have left them 0-2 in their league.

Agawam did rebound on Monday afternoon to capture a 3-1 victory over South

The Brownies were in complete con-

trol on the road, dominating the first two games of the set 25-14, and 25-15. South Hadley managed to come back during the third game, and outlasted Agawam 26-24 before the Brownies put the match away with a 25-16 win in the fourth game.

On the front line, Caroline Hitchcock would lead with 18 kills and 11 digs as well as two aces. Bianca Culhane had an impressive seven aces and eight kills, and Abby Viens and Gabby Harrison added eight kills apiece. Maddy Lockwood had 33 assists setting up the offense.

The Brownies faced a tough foe earlier this week in Minnechaug, and is scheduled to host West Springfield on Sept. 30. Westfield is scheduled to visit on Monday Oct. 3 at 6 p.m.

## Last week's scores

Tuesday, Sept. 20

**Girls Soccer** 

Agawam 1, Chicopee Comprehensive 0 Field Hockey

Longmeadow 5, Agawam 0 Golf

Agawam 158, Ludlow 167

**Girls Volleyball** 

Frontier 3, Agawam 2

**Boys Cross Country** West Springfield 22, Agawam 39

**Girls Cross Country** 

Agawam 22, West Springfield 33

Wednesday, Sept. 21

**Boys Soccer** Agawam 0, West Springfield 0

**Girls Soccer** 

Agawam 3, Holyoke 0

**Field Hockey** 

Agawam 2, West Springfield 1

Thursday, Sept. 22

Football

Agawam 35, Putnam 7 Girls Volleyball

Longmeadow 3, Agawam 1

Friday, Sept. 23 **Girls Soccer** 

Agawam 2, Northampton 0

**Field Hockey** 

Agawam 4, Holyoke 0

Agawam 157, Chicopee 189 Agawam 156, Chicopee Comp. 196

Monday, Sept. 26

**Boys Soccer** Agawam 7, Central 1 Field Hockey

Frontier 2, Agawam 0

**Girls Volleyball** 

Agawam 3, South Hadley 1

## Tournament to raise awareness for drug addiction set to tee off next month

AGAWAM - On Oct. 8, Agawam Municipal Golf Course will host, Shane's Tourney, aimed at helping create awareness for drug

addiction in memory of a multi-sport athlete from Agawam High School.

Tracy Wilkie said her son Shane passed away in November 2014 from drug addiction.

Since then, she established Shane's Foundation, and spends time in the Agawam Public School raising awareness for drug and alcohol addiction.

The tournament will be held at the municipal course on Saturday, Oct. 8 with a 12:30 p.m. shotgun start.

Golfer spots have sold out, but there are still open spaces for the dinner and

ball-drops.

To get involved in the tournament, contact Wilkie at tjsbwilk@gmail.com.



## **SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS**

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper? Email your image(s) with description to:

dforbes@turley.com or gscibelli@turley.com

#### **SOCCER** ■ from page 12

Street Park has been Agawam's temporary home while the Brownies await the opening of their new artificial turf multi-use field, which is set to host its first game on Sept. 30.

The Brownies scored a goal in each half. Sarah Carron and Mia Kelley each had tallies while Mary Kate Wysocki and Bailey Laviolette had the assists. The Brownies had an aggressive approach and did a good job attacking the Northampton goal.

The Blue Devils did also pressure at times, but Agawam's defense did a great and backed up a shutout effort from Erin Berthiaume. The goalie has done an excellent job as the main starter for Agawam. She made seven saves in the victory.

Against Holyoke, Agawam was never in any trouble as they scored early in the game and continued to keep up the pace throughout the game. The Holyoke defense did a pretty good job not allowing Agawam too many shots on goal.

Alyssa Montagna scored twice while

Carron had a goal and assisted on one of Montagna's goals. And against Chicopee Comp, a team that had been on an upward trend, Montagna scored the only goal in the first half.

Berthiaume made five saves while Caitlin Normoyle played the first half and had three for the Brownies.

In the next two weeks, Agawam will be tested to play some of its best soccer of the season as they go on the independent circuit against some of best talent in the region. The Brownies faced Belchertown earlier this week.

Starting with Friday, Sept. 30, the Brownies will face West Springfield, Minnechaug (Oct. 4) and Ludlow on Oct. 7. All three are top contenders for the Western Massachusetts Division I Championship. Ludlow (runner-up) and Minnechaug (champion) were the finalists last year.

Agawam currently holds a first place tie in the Kurty-Fielding League with a record of 2-1-1. They are tied with Comp. Longmeadow owns the only victory of the season over Agawam so far.



side. Her shot would ricochet of Holyoke goalie Chevenne Dunn's leg pad. Sydney Mazza then made a quick touch over to Kristen Fellion, who would score in a small opening between the goalie and the left post, making it 2-0 Agawam.

That was the big goal that changed the momentum completely toward Agawam. The Brownies would take control of possession for the rest of the game.

Agawam made it 3-0 with 16:38 remaining, as Nicole Mercadante took a pass from Bruno on the right side.

The final goal was scored by Mazza with 9:35 remaining. Agawam again attacked on the far right, with Mercadante, Bruno, and Mazza all converging. Mazza would get the final touch on the ball after it went off a few sticks inside of the circle.

In picking up the shutout, Nikki Bates made three saves. Bruno finished with a goal, which she scored in the first half and two assists. Dunn suffered the loss for Holyoke, making 11 saves.

Agawam would move on and play on Monday afternoon, suffering a loss at Frontier Regional High School 2-0. The Brownies are now 3-2-1 this season with a 1-1-1



Erika Sypit tries to charge through the Holyoke defense. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A.

record in the North League.

Holyoke suffered only its first loss of the regular season, the Knights are 6-1 with a perfect 5-0 record in the West League.

Agawam has another tough independent matchup on Oct. 3 against Mohawk while Holyoke will next face South Hadley on the road Oct. 4.



Taia Vivenzo circles around a loose ball.



Eliza Timms fights to move back toward the Holyoke goal.



Taia Vivenzo looks to control play in the middle.



Goalie Erin Berthiaume punts after making a save. Turley Publications Photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Caitlin Shean attempts a pass ahead of the Comp defense.



Agawam's Alyssa Montagna fights to keep the ball.

## Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@ turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

#### Saturday, Oct. 1

OPEN HOUSE, JOB FAIR, TAG SALE at OMG, Inc., 153 Bowles Rd, Agawam from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, visit www.SeeHowScrewsAreMade.com.

SALMON BROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY Small Engine Show on the Salmon Brook Historical Society grounds at 208 Salmon St., Granby, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Setup at 7:30 a.m. Free admission and parking. For more information, contact Don Renthke at 860-549-6687 or flushbewithyou@yahoo.com.

THE TASTE OF ITALY FESTIVAL at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Parish from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at 36 Margaret St., Springfield. This celebration will begin with Mass in the church on William Street at 4 p.m. There is no entrance fee; parking is free. Food tickets will be sold.

VICKIE PHILLIPS SINGS "THE GREAT AMERICAN SONGBOOK" at the Springfield JCC, 1160 Dickinson St., Springfield. \$12 for youth, seniors and students; \$18 for adults; \$25 reserved seating. Call 413-739-4715.

#### Sunday, Oct. 2

BARBARA CROUSE MEMORIAL CONCERT at First Congregational Church of Granby, 219 N. Granby Road, Granby, Conn. Free admission. Good will offering accepted at the door.

#### Monday, Oct. 3

GRAVESTONE GIRLS VIRTUAL TOUR of Agawam's seven local cemeteries, "Welcome to the Graveyard," at the Agawam Public Library at 6:30 p.m. To register, call 413-789-1550, ext. 4, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

THE ALLEN BIRD CLUB presents "Birds of Papua New Guinea" at 7:30 p.m. at the Tolman Wing of the Springfield Science Museum at the Quadrangle, 21 Edwards St., Springfield.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 5

THE DIVERSITY SERIES at Springfield Technical Community College begins with featured speaker Marilyn Alverio, founder and producer of the Latinas and Power Symposium, at 12:15 p.m. in Scibelli Hall (Building 2). Free and open to the public.

#### Friday, Oct. 7

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL'S Applause Series continues with "Think! Laugh! Gasp! The Comedy and Magic of Pj Pinsonnault" at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. in Agawam. This and all Applause Series events are free and open to the public.

#### Saturday, Oct. 8

SECOND ANNUAL KANETOBERFEST from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Polish American Club, 139 Southwick St., Feeding Hills. Vendors, raffles, a dog show. Dog-friendly event. Friendly, leashed and vaccinated dogs are welcome. Leashes must be non-retractable. Admission \$5; free for those that bring a box of dog treats made in USA. Kids under 12 free with adult admission.

#### Sunday, Oct. 9

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-

#### Wednesday, Oct. 12

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome

#### Thursday, Oct. 13

THE OVATION SPEAKERS SERIES at Springfield Technical Community College continues with "Get Out and Vote" featuring Bill Scher and Holly Robichaud, at 11 a.m. in Scibelli Hall (Building 2). Free and open to the

#### Friday, Oct. 14

KENT MEMORIAL LIBRARY to host professional wrestling three-time world champion Bob Backlund at the Suffield Senior Center, 145 Bridge St., at 7 p.m. Free admission. To register, visit suffield-library.org or call 860-668-3896.

#### Saturday, Oct. 15

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST GUILD VENDORS FAIR from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the St. John the Evangelist Parish Center, 833 Main St., Agawam.

ANTIQUE APPRAISAL DAY at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. \$3 per item; two for \$5. For more information, call 413-569-6362.

FRIENDS OF THE SOUTHWICK PUBLIC LIBRARY CRAFT FAIR from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Southwick Town Hall, 454 College Highway.

AGAWAM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH FALL FESTI-VAL from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 745 Main St., Agawam. Juried crafters, raffle table, bookstore and café.

SALMON BROOK HISTORICAL SOCIETY'S FALL FLEA MARKET from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Refreshments available for purchase. Salmon Brook Historical Society is at 208 Salmon St., Granby, Conn.

FALL ROAST PORK DINNER at Copper Hill United Methodist Church at 5 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults, \$6 for children under the age of 12, and free for preschoolers. For reservations, call Judy at 860-668-7953. The church is at 27 Copper Hill, E. Granby, Conn.

#### Monday, Oct. 17

BOOK FOLDING WORKSHOP for adults at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. at 6:30 p.m. All materials included. Space is limited. To register, call 413-789-1550 or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

#### Tuesday, Oct. 18

THE AGAWAM JUNIOR WOMEN'S CLUB will meet at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St. with a social and refreshments at 6:30 p.m. followed by a business meeting at 7 p.m. All are welcome. Please use the back entrance.

#### Wednesday, Oct. 26

WEST OF THE RIVER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE will host Food Fest West from 5:30-8 p.m. at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane, Agawam. Tickets are \$25 in advance at www.westoftheriverchamber. com, or \$35 at the door. For more information, contact the Chamber office at 413-426-3880 or info@ westoftheriverchamber.com.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 1

COFFEE WITH MAYOR COHEN from 8-9:30 a.m. hosted by West of the River Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call 413-426-3880 or email info@ westoftheriverchamber.com.

THE DIVERSITY SERIES at Springfield Technical Community College continues with featured speaker John B. Herrington, astronaut and retired U.S. Navy commander, at 10 a.m. in the Scibelli Hall (Building 2). Free and open

#### Wednesday, Nov. 9

THE OVATION SPEAKERS SERIES at Springfield Technical Community College continues with featured speaker MB Caschetta, renowned author of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender literature, at 10:10 a.m. and 11:15 a.m. in Scibelli Hall (Building 2). Free and open to the public.

#### Saturday, Nov. 19

OUR LADY OF THE LAKE CHURCH annual Christmas Craft Fair and Bake Sale today and tomorrow. The Knights of Columbus will be serving food on Saturday. Free parking is available behind the church for all. For more information, call 413-569-0162. The church is at 224 Sheep Pasture Road, Southwick.

ALL-DAY CARD WORKSHOP to benefit the Westfield Athenaeum at the Central Baptist Church, 115 Elm St., Westfield from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. All materials provided. Advance registration required. Participants should bring their own lunch, or money to order from Two Rivers Burritos. To register, contact Sandra at stampinsandra@ comcast.net.

#### Saturday, Dec. 3

ANNUAL HOLLY BAZAAR at Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

#### **ONGOING**

ADULT DROP-IN SIT & KNIT meets at the Agawam Public Library at 750 Cooper St. Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. Bring your sticks and join other knitters for creative time. No registration is required.

## Agawam Senior Center

#### **Lunch Menu**

Monday, Oct. 3: Pasta fagioli, ham salad sandwich, Tater Tots, watermelon.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: Low-sodium hot dogs, coleslaw, baked beans, birthday cake.

Wednesday, Oct. 5: Chicken and dumplings, mixed vegetables, garden salad, pudding.

Thursday, Oct. 6: Beef stew and mixed vegetables, biscuits, caprese salad, peaches.

Friday, Oct. 7: Baked fish, scalloped potatoes, broccoli, mixed fruit.

#### **Calendar of Events**

Monday, Oct. 3: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., free hearing screening with Ear Masters; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 10 a.m., Fallon Insurance agent available; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., Bingo; 2 p.m., monthly day dance with Richie Mitnick; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, Oct. 4: S.H.I.N.E. rep available (by appt.);

9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 10 a.m., chair exercise; noon, ladies only billiards; 12:30 p.m.; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game, 1-3 p.m., flu shots (bring insurance cards); 2:30 p.m., chorus; 4:30 p.m., yoga; 6 p.m., beginner line dance.

Wednesday, Oct. 5: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., ballroom lessons, scrabble; 1:30 p.m., Golden Agers Chapter 2 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6 p.m., Western Mass. Genealogy group meets (dining room).

Thursday, Oct. 6: 9 a.m., exercise; 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, open art; 2 p.m., Melody Band practice (subject to change); 6:30 p.m., evening pitch, evening line dancing.

Friday, Oct. 7: 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., Let's Paint; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 4 p.m., poker.

## <u>\_egals</u>

LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF AGAWAM PLANNING BOARD

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, October 6, 2016 at 6:30 PM at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Murphy's Pub c/o Thomas Murphy for a zone change request on a parcel of land on Suffield Street between Parcel 19-2-27 & 19-2-28 from Agricultural to Business A. Copies of the proposed

zone change can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM in the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA. BY ORDER OF:

Mark R. Paleologopoulos, Chairman

Agawam Planning Board 9/22,9/29/16

#### LEGAL NOTICE **PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM** CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on

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Monday, October 17, 2016 at 7:00 P.M. at the Roberta G. Doering School, 68 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Petition of Murphy's Pub c/o Thomas Murphy for a proposed Zone Change Plan for parcel on Suffield Street, Agawam, MA. (Parcel between ID# I9-2-27 and I9-2-28) The Zone Change request is to allow the parcel to be rezoned to Business A. A copy of the proposed Zone Change can be obtained from the Agawam Planning Office or the Agawam City Clerk's Office between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M. in the Agawam City Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA. BY ORDER OF:

James P. Cichetti City Council President 9/22,9/29/16

Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Hampden **The Superior Court** CIVIL DOCKET #1679CV00667 RE: Westfield Bank vs Daniel G. Mello ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION To: Daniel G. Mello, a Massachusetts resident, and to the best of the Plaintiff's

knowledge, with a last and usual place of residence at 35 Fairview Avenue, Westfield. Massachusetts; in the County of Hampden; all in said Commonwealth;

AND TO ALL PER-SONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICE MEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED 2003 as amended:

Westfield Bank, a duly incorporated financial institution with a place of business at 141 Elm Street, Westfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts claiming to be the holder by assignment of mortgage covering property known as 127-129 High Street, Agawam, Hamp-

den County, Massachusetts given by Daniel G. Mello to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., "MERS" as nominee for Village Mortgage Company, dated June 7, 2012 recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book 19299, Page 55, has filed with said court a Complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Service Members' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended and you object to such foreclosure

you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at Springfield in said County on or before 11/15/16 or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said act.

Witness, Judith Fabricant, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court, at Springfield, Massachusetts, this 26th day of September, 2016.

Laura S. Gentile Clerk of the Courts By: Terrence C. Ginley Assistant Clerk

9/29/16

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

## **HOW TO SUBMIT** LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the Agawam Advertiser News should be sent directly to klanier@ turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legals for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

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# Classifieds

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#### Tag Sale

ONE DAY ONLY (October 1) Surplus from moving home and woodworking shop. Items include Peerless Boiler, some tools, horse blankets and other good stuff. 226 Springfield St, Wilbraham

POOL, LEAF BLOWER, go cart, contractors dryer, tables, furniture and more. Friday 9/30, Sat. 10/1, Sunday 10/2, 8-5. 39 Bennet Rd, Wilbraham

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Work Cook

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#### Services

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#### Services



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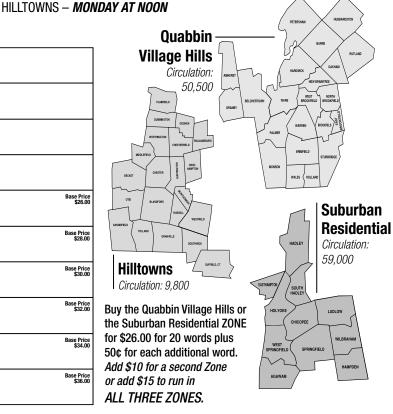
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The deadline for all print classified ads in the Quabbin and Suburban Zones is Friday at noon for publication the following week. The deadline for the Hill Towns Zone is Monday at noon. All online ads will be published for 7 days including the corresponding print editions.



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## Realty office opens



A grand opening ribbon-cutting ceremony was held Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Rose Misischia — Gallagher Real Estate at 351 Walnut Street Ext., Agawam. Among those looking on as Mayor Richard Cohen cuts the ribbon are, to Cohen's right, Rose Misischia and Agawam City Councilor George Bitzas. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Gosselin named VP at healthcare IT company

Agawam was promoted last month at VertitechIT, a national healthcare information technology and consulting firm.

Gosselin, who formerly served a the company's director of technical operations, was named vice president of engineering. He has more than 18 years of programming and network engineering experience.

"Gerry's wealth of early experience as a programmer shines through in

HOLYOKE — Gerry Gosselin of his infrastructure design skills," commented VertitechIT Chief Operations Officer Gregory Pellerin. "As health system IT departments across the country adopt a software-defined approach to networking and storage, we're confident that Gerry will further our leadership position in the industry."

Gosselin will oversee VertitechIT's team of senior engineers and architects. He joined the company in 2013 and has developed high-level IT

experience in network engineering, monitoring and management, virtualization, system administration and systems integration.

He resides in Agawam with his wife and daughter. He is a 1998 graduate of Holyoke Community College with a degree in computer information systems.

For more information on the company, visit www.VertitechIT.com.

## It's a girl!



John and Jen Leupo Verprauskus welcomed their daughter, Julia Pauline, into this world on Saturday, Aug. 20, in Denver. Julia weighed 6 lbs., 8 oz., and was 20 inches long. Jen is a 2001 graduate of Agawam High School and is the daughter of **Bob and Pauline Leupo of Agawam.** SUBMITTED PHOTO

## OMG to host open house with job fair, tag sale

OMG Inc., a manufacturer of specialty fasteners and roofing products, is having an open house at its Agawam headquarters on Saturday, Oct. 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free and open to the public and will include a job fair, factory tours, multi-employee tag sale, and a variety of family-oriented activities, such as virtual reality pods, face painting and pumpkin decorating. There also will be a Red Cross blood and volunteer drive. For additional information and updates about the open house, visit www.SeeHow-ScrewsAreMade.com.



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Storrowton Tavern - Storrowton Tavern & Carriage House is a landmark area facility located on the grounds of the Eastern States Exposition. The operators of the facility, the Calvanese family, have over 45 years of hospitality experience. They offer beautifully landscaped grounds, terraced patios and an upscale banquet facility that can serve 400 guests. For more information please visit ww.storrowtontavern.com. We are located at 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, MA 01089. 413.732.4188. info@storrowton.com.

Union Station - Northampton's Union Station was designed by American architect H. H. Richardson in 1886. This historic train depot has been extensively renovated to contain one of the most elegant and unique banquet facilities in all of New England. The Grand Ballroom at Union Station. www.unionstationbanquets.com.

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**Atkins Farms Country Market** – Atkins Flower Shop is managed by three full-time experienced floral designers to assist you in planning the wedding of your dreams. You can be assured of receiving the excellent service and quality products from the floral department that you have come to expect from Atkins. Their work is beautiful and expertly done and offered to you at prices that are surprisingly reasonable. 253-9528. www.atkinsfarms.com.

Otto Florist & Gifts - Traditional or contemporary, elegant or rustic our experienced designers work within your budget to create the wedding of your dreams! Call 413-967-5381 for an appointment. 7 North St., Ware.

Sixteen Acres Garden Center – The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center has been servicing Springfield for over 50 years. Our professional staff members aim to provide a service that is unique and tailored to suit individual needs. We provide a complete, high quality range of floral products at competitive prices. The Floral Shop at Sixteen Acres Garden Center offers flowers that are fresh daily and we take great pride in our work. We have arrangements for all different occasions and all budgets. For professional and experienced service please contact us at 413-783-5883. Located at 1359 Wilbraham Rd., Springfield, MA. Visit us on the web at www.16acresgardencenter.com.

#### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Karen Geaghan Photography - My life, my passion, my love! Specializing in Life Cycle Photography: Weddings, Maternity, Newborn, Children & Families. Doing small things with great love because in the end I believe it's the little things that count the most. Clients become family! Visit me at www.karengeaghanphotos.com or call 413-596-2227 or 537-3001. I would LOVE to hear from you!

#### **RENTALS**

Michael's Party Rentals - We have a tent for your event and so much more. With over 15 years of experience, Michael's is your one stop shop for all your rental needs. From tents, tables and chairs to glassware and linens we have you covered for any occasion. Call us today for a quote 413-589-7368 or visit us on the web at michaelspartyrentals.com.